

The Editors' Conference and "Wessex News"

It is obvious from an examination of the accounts of other universities that none spends anywhere near so great a relative sum on their news-sheet as we do. The Union finances *Wessex News* to the extent of £57 for fifteen issues, which means that each member of the Union provides 3½d. per issue, and then pays a further 1d. for each copy. There may be some who regard this as money wasted: who would rather spend Union money on boats, or footballs, or dances. Such are foolish and deluded! Does not Thomas Hobbes insist upon the immortality of the written word?

I have no vested interest in *Wessex News*, so I can say without prejudice that it stands high among university publications. If it remains as it is, our money will never be wasted. We decided at the conference that news-sheets are an important part of university life. They strengthen the unity of each Student's Union or Guild: they bring before the public eye the doings of the bursars; they keep alive students' interest in their own domestic politics. They are a means, in short, of fighting that eternal failing, "student apathy."

I feel that *Wessex News* fulfils those functions at the moment. It must remain a publication in which we have freedom of expression, not only on domestic affairs, but upon world affairs: in which we have controversy, but not abuse; wit of universal appeal, and a minimum of scandal that but tickles the fancy of the few: in which we have liveness but none of the cheapness of the popular dailies.

University newspapers are in a unique position. They are not fettered by the dead weight of advertisers. They should remain uncontrolled mediums of expression, in which truth should come before policy, in which all have a right to state what they believe.

At Southampton we have a great degree of freedom of expression. But many universities in the country are less fortunate. In many there is a growing tendency to attempt to enforce a rigorous censorship of student newspapers. Liverpool, Leeds and others. In view of the evidence the conference passed unanimously a resolution deprecating these attempts at censorship, the text of which appears below.

The Youth Parliament

"Democracy won't work," say the dictators. But students seem to think otherwise. They elect their Parliament and the Union Committees, their S.R.C.'s and their Common Room Committees; in fact it would be difficult to find any other section of the community which relies so completely on the democratic method. And just as students are interested in democracy inside the Universities, so they, like the rest of the youth of the country, believe that democratic discussion is the best way of arriving at a solution of the world's problems.

More than ever before we are concerned with these problems; and the National Parliament of Youth offers an opportunity for a full and free discussion of all matters which youth is talking about to-day, from Education to Foreign Policy, from Civil Liberties to Colonies.

The Youth Parliament is being organised by a Council of representatives of over thirty youth and student organisations. The N.U.S., University Conservatives, S.C.M., University Liberals, B.U.L.N.S., and the University Labour Federation, are among

the student organisations which are preparing Bills to submit to the Parliament, which is under the patronage of many famous figures such as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Lytton, and Sir Norman Angell. Discussions in every town in the country on the various Bills to be submitted will culminate in a meeting of a thousand delegates in London from March 24th to 27th, for the Parliament, which will be the biggest thing of its kind ever held in this country.

The N.U.S. has prepared a Bill on the educational system which, like the other Bills, has already been circulated to Universities and youth organisations. Most Unions are arranging meetings with the staff, students, local teachers and youth organisations for a full discussion of the proposals in the N.U.S. Bill. The other Bills are equally important and should be discussed in open forums. It is in ways such as these that the isolation of the Universities from Society, which was so vigorously condemned at the Nottingham Congress of the N.U.S., can be overcome.

The Economics of British Re-armament

On January 26th, Prof. Ford gave a lecture to the Economics Society, the Conservative Association and the Socialist Society, discussing this very important though seemingly abstruse topic. The huge rearmament schemes of the Government are projects in which all should take some interest since they touch practically everyone in the pocket if in no other way. Prof. Ford drove this home with several warnings regarding the sacrifices we should be obliged to make in our standard of living, as regards our present relative freedom from bureaucracy, our freedom to travel abroad at will (unlike the position in Germany). Subsequent questions showed the interest aroused, for the topic was bound to be controversial however objective and scientific the lecturer tried to be.

Prof. Ford began by pointing out the various difficulties in the way of rearmament in contrast with the admitted need for it. He compared the resources of the British Empire and France with those of the Rome-Berlin Axis, to the disadvantage of the latter. He discussed our various objectives in re-arming, A.R.P., air and military strength, stocks of different commodities, and elucidated the technical economic difficulties, such as that of "bottlenecks" due to checks in the supply of materials and consequent sharp rises in price. He emphasized the basic problem, to divert resources from the man in the street to the man behind the gun, or the man in front of it, and similar gentlemen. Whereas Britain has decided to spend £1,500,000,000 in five years in re-arming, Germany has spent as much as £1,000,000,000 in one year. Our margin of taxable capacity is much less than in 1914: then income tax was 1/1 in the £1, while now it is 5/-; the National Debt having increased from £800,000,000 to £8,000,000,000. We therefore had to face up to drastic increases in taxation, to a fall in the standard of living, to possibly far-reaching interference with our freedom, and no such thing as "business as usual" would be possible. The impression we gained of the next few decades of history was a gloomy one. Economics apparently still remains the dismal science, in fact. Re-armament as yet has done little to rejuvenate the Special Areas, for instance. In the next war we shall probably learn far more than we could at College, but we should not learn it in so pleasant a way. Prof. Ford

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WESSEX NEWS

Tuesday, February 7th, 1939.

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COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON

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Editorial.

Last week the Editor of the *West Saxons* went to an Editors' Conference arranged by the N.U.S. at which various problems connected with the publication of University News-sheets were discussed. A detailed report appears on another page, but a few words will not be inappropriate here. *Wessex News* can claim to be one of the first University News-sheets to be published, and it is very encouraging to hear that it is highly regarded in other Universities.

We had hoped to be able to publish a pre-view of the *New University* which will be on sale to-day, but at the time of going to press, it had not come to hand. Mr. Fraser Milne, the Editor, stated last week that he wished *New University* to be a means of communicating university news and that he would welcome any articles.

It is some time since we heard complaints about apathy in College, and never before has there been reason to grumble at the lack of support for Society events. We very much hope that the complaint put forward in our correspondence columns by the Montefiore Junior Common Room Committee is not the thin edge of a wedge heralding the decline of a very important factor in maintaining our 'corporate life'.

Continued from column 2

the local Labour Movement and the local Leagues of Youth, the importance of which was realized by Sir Stafford Cripps. The U.L.F. was the only organization which satisfactorily fitted the needs of Students; it provided an education for Socialism in the Universities. It was a strong consolidated movement to which everyone should respond immediately and it was vitally necessary that it should have adequate financial backing. However, he emphasized the necessity that political activity should be subsidiary to academic work. Nevertheless it was the duty of everyone to unite to destroy the National Government and all its abominations.

Continued from page 1, column 3. could offer some glimmerings of hope, however: undergraduates would probably be allowed to finish their courses. Further, the newspapers tell us that school-teachers and professors over 25 are exempt from military service. But the writer is quaking in his shoes since he is neither an undergraduate, nor over 25 years of age.

The Popular Front in the Universities

Christopher Meredith, the General Secretary of the University Labour Federation, on 2nd February addressed a meeting of the Socialist Society upon the subject of the Expulsion of Stafford Cripps from the Labour Party. The answer to the advance of Fascism had been an increasing activity on the part of the democratic movements in every country, especially in Spain where the Popular Front has been denied its legitimate right to buy arms for its defence. In this country there was a general realization of the danger to British interests caused by the increasing and warlike threats of the Fascist powers.

It was the duty of the Labour Party to give a clear and decisive leadership to the feeling that is growing against the "National" Government, since there can be no assurance that in five years time this country will not be subject to a Fascist regime.

In Britain the Student Movement was gradually becoming conscious of its role in Society. All Students were convinced that a belief in Democracy and Social Justice could alone secure International Justice. The practical collaboration of all political organizations could give a clarity to the problems with which we are faced and students as a whole could be made to realise that their own intimate problems are linked with the general international and national situation. Students will never secure better hostels and refectories and the other facilities that they need for the better prosecution of their studies, unless they realised the value of collective effort. Mr. Meredith declared that it was time that the British Press gave the full publicity to student activities that they receive in France where the resolutions of Students were regarded as typical of the entire British nation. In China a British Student resolution was published in pamphlet form and 5,000,000 copies were sold. It was the duty of students to aid in every way

Continued in column 1.

N.U.S. Engineering Conference.

The conference was divided into two committees, one to discuss Engineering Curriculum and the other vacation and graduate employment.

Regarding curricula it was thought that in many Colleges the quantity of work was excessive and a desire was expressed that the courses should confine themselves more to fundamentals. The only alternative was to extend the course from three to four years, since the crowding of work into a three year course led to the elimination of all other forms of activity. Thus the Committee recommended that suggestions for improvements should be sought by the respective Engineering Societies in co-operation with the staff; and it suggested that staff-student committees be formed in each College to this end.

It agreed that the basis of each lecture should be given out in printed form, and a suitable bibliography suggested.

It also agreed that a definite opportunity should be provided for individual personal contact between lecturers and students.

The Committee commended the practice of some Universities and Colleges of appointing lecturers on the basis of a probationary period.

They thought that the main function of the University was to produce a man trained in scientific thinking. In order to fulfil the main needs of society, and thus indirectly those of the individual, he should be of broad outlook and capable of acquiring knowledge not merely as a means to an end. Thus it was considered that a more general and less specialised course would lead to improvement. It was thought also that more stress should be placed on the importance of the social and athletic side of the College.

The Committee felt that a definite gap should exist between school and University courses in Engineering, and that this period should be spent acquiring a certain experience of industrial

Continued in column 4.

Why are we losing the Peace?

Mr. K. Ziliacus, better known as "Vigilantes," spoke to the College branch of the B.U.L.N.S. on Saturday, 28th January. He was a British officer during the War of Intervention in Russia and for almost the last twenty years has been an official of the League Secretariat at Geneva.

In his speech, he pointed out that the fundamental reason why we were approaching war to-day, was that we are living in one of those great rush forward periods of history; we lie between a self-regulating economic system and a system in which production is planned. In the first slump after the war, there was a break through in Italy of the plutocracy; during the second slump, the break through occurred in Germany.

In England, the National Government rose from an organised panic in 1931, its function was to save our existing

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Continued from column 3.

conditions and a cultural background. During this time students should maintain contact with their theoretical work, either by attending evening classes or preferably by a part time arrangement with their employer. It was therefore agreed that a recommendation be made to the Headmasters' Conference and University Authorities advising Engineering students to do an apprenticeship of at least six months before entering College.

Regarding Vacation Employment, the Committee were unanimously of the opinion that students should definitely avail themselves of the opportunity. To facilitate this it resolved that a classified list of firms giving vacation employment to students be circulated to all Engineering Societies.

The Committee strongly recommended the appointment in all Colleges of a full-time Appointments Board Officer with a view to closer co-operation between those Colleges and industry. Also it regarded the interviewing of Engineering Students by the Heads of their Departments or the Appointments Board Officer before or on entering College as regards the type of course they propose to undertake as an essential part of registration.

It was found that whereas some Universities had a surplus of vacancies notified to the Appointments Board, other Universities were in a less favourable position. Thus it was recommended that where an Appointments Board is unable to suggest a suitable applicant for a vacancy, it should send the firm of its list of all other University Appointments Boards and suggest that application be made to these.

I. NEWTON-SMITH.

Visit of Mr. and Mrs. R. Austin

On Friday last at 8.30 p.m., a gathering of Stoneham men was treated to a 'cello recital by Mrs Austin and a talk by Mr. Richard Austin, conductor of the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances the lecture, which it had been proposed that Mr. Austin should give in the Music Studio at 4 p.m. had to be cancelled, but Mr. Austin gave us an epitome of what he would have said, after the evening recital.

There were one or two interspersed items by soloists of Stoneham, but with all due respect to these performers their items were scarcely in keeping with a concert of this type, and, though excellent in their way, might very well have been excluded.

Mr. Austin's few words afterwards, were profoundly acceptable. His criticism of the use of wireless, the lack of the personal touch, and the sad death of amateur performers, expressed, I think, the sentiments of most of those who were present.

The audience included a disgracefully small number of students from the other halls, and many members of staff whom one would have expected to see there, were conspicuous by their absence. It is a pity that the visit of two such distinguished musicians should have received so little support. The sincere thanks of those who were present, however, go to Mr. and Mrs. Austin for a most enjoyable and instructive evening.

MR. F. J. KILLINGTON.

It is with great pleasure that we congratulate Mr. F. J. Killington, B.Sc. (Oxon), an Old Hartleyan, who has been awarded the degree of D.Sc. for his research work in Entomology. Mr. Killington is first assistant at the Central District Boys' School, Southampton, and his research has been carried out in his spare time. His monograph in two volumes on neuroptera, published in 1936, is a standard work on the subject and the only work of major importance in its particular branch which has been published since 1868.

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Athletic Union

The Cross Country Club and the Soccer Club paid a joint visit to Reading on Saturday. The former took part in the Quadrangular and although they did not cover themselves with glory they had a fair amount of success. The margin of 50 points or so between Bristol, who were the winners, and U.C.S. seems a big gulf, but at any rate the other two teams fared much worse. Little mention has been made of the C.C.C. this year, but it seems to have quite a solid team. It has a good backbone of old stalwarts to stiffen it, but its success lies not in the individual brilliance of its members but in the team spirit and co-operation which has so admirably manifested itself.

As was said above, their co-partners on Saturday were the Soccer Club. We have noted before the Soccer Club's amazing success, but the 6-1 win over Reading proved that a 4-2 win at home last term was no snatch victory.

Indeed, ever since November 16th when they played Southampton Police, the Soccer 1st XI have won every match. Unfortunately the return match with this same team, which should have taken place very soon, has been cancelled and so the A.F.C. will have no chance of vindicating themselves.

The Rugger, too, seems to have brightened up this term, though no outstanding success has been their reward. It is gratifying to notice the greater strength and confidence which the club has now gained. The dismal defeats of last term have been converted into the glorious losses of this term; and their prospects for the future seem to be much happier.

NETBALL CLUB.

St. Anne's Secondary School 26, U.C.S. 9.

The College team met St. Anne's Secondary School in the semi-finals of the League on Saturday. It was a disappointing game and there was little doubt as to the result. At half-time the score was 14-6 but as there was no improvement in the

second half, St. Anne's rapidly piled up the goals. College passing was often careless and the play was particularly wild towards the end of the match.

We hope for better results against Bristol when the team will be at full strength.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB.

U.C.S. 4. Ichen Secondary 1. Taking an easy lead owing to an unfortunate mistake by an opposing back, College attacked strongly throughout the game and maintained the improved form which has been shown this term. Although Ichen defence was good and the forwards speedy, neither presented any real difficulty to the home forwards or defence and the final score was by no means undeserved.

U.C.S. 14. New Milton 0.

U.C.S. 10. Civil Service 0. Although playing three reserves, the College team combined extremely well and were definitely superior in all parts of the field. The game started evenly, the visiting team putting up a stout defence, but College soon broke through and opened the score with a quick follow-up by the left-inner. Miss Dade, playing extremely well in the unfamiliar position of left wing, considerably enlivened the forward line with an effectiveness of which the final score is sufficient indication.

Nevertheless, although the left forwards were much improved, the right will have to shoot more accurately and pass back more frequently if opportunities are not to be wasted in the U.A.U. match at Bristol.

BOXING CLUB.

There is little to report in this edition, as the U.A.U. Finals do not take place until Friday, February 10th. All we can do is to wish our representatives, Edwardson, Taylor, and Reiz good fighting.

RUGBY.

Lee-on-Solent 0. U.C.S. 7. U.C.S. won a hard-fought struggle at Lee-on-Solent through a dropped goal by Wife and an unconverted try scored by McPherson, following a forward rush. The team played its best game of the season and fully deserved the victory against a really good side who defeated a weakened U.C.S. side by 30 points at the beginning of last term.

January 28th. Goldsmiths 13. U.C.S. 0. Although Goldsmiths' were slightly the better side, U.C.S. were very unlucky to lose by such a considerable margin, as Mossman, Evans and Bennworth were brought down inches from the Goldsmiths' line and Davies actually held up over the line, while Hunt was unfortunate with several long-range penalty kicks. The chief causes of defeat were

slow heeling from the scrum and a disinclination of the out-sides near the scrum to part with the ball. 25. February 1st.

U.C.S. 0. Reading 9. A very good game with Reading just deserving their narrow victory, won for them chiefly by a very heavy and effective pack of forwards.

January 25. U.C.S. 2nd XV 8. Eastleigh B. 8.

FOOTBALL.

2nd XI. Half-time: U.C.S. 3.

P'mouth Rovers 0. Full-time: U.C.S. 3.

January 25. P'mouth Rovers 4. (Scorers: Windnat (1))

Smith T. F. (2). Reading 0. 1. U.C.S. 1st XI 6.

Feb. 4th.

The first few minutes witnessed rapid raids by both forward lines. U.C.S. halves pressed play into the home team's area, and Eden completing a well-organized forward movement, left the 'keeper with no chance by a terrific drive. From the centre-off, play was again taken into Reading's goalmouth; Wallace, receiving a well-placed centre from Eden, sent the upright with a powerful shot; Jones pounced on the return ball and scored coolly. Newland received a bad injury, and virtually playing with ten men U.C.S. were hard-pressed. The efficiency of the backs, however, repelled the fine efforts of the Reading forwards, especially the well-headed and first-time tackling of Stemp prevented further score. Eden soon took the ball up the right wing, cut in, and scored again. A long pass from Pettit reached Wallace, whose speed carried him easily past the home defence, and sure ball-control made this perfect goal look easy.

Half-time score: Reading U. 0 U.C.S. 4.

For the rest of the game U.C.S. dominated play with accurate passes, swift-runs, and opportunistic shots. The home team responded valiantly, playing wholeheartedly they moved past Derbyshire, temporarily dazed by over-strenuous heading, and gained their first goal. White (S.), playing his usual immaculate game, added his first to the U.C.S. score, in directing a low hard shot from outside the penalty area. U.C.S. now played as one man. Eden, receiving a pass from Pettit, once more manoeuvred into a shooting position, and added the last of six goals.

The soccer team's twelfth successive win may seem over-rated, but, as a Reading spectator observed, "the best team College has ever put out."

Sat. Jan. 28th.

U.C.S. 2. Goldsmith's 0. (Jones (1); Eden (1))

Wed. Feb. 1st.

U.C.S. 10. Taunton's 2. (Derbyshire (1), Jones (1), White (1), Wallace (2), Eden (5))

MEN'S HOCKEY.

M.H.C. v. King Edwards, lost 3-4.

M.H.C. v. Fort Brockhurst, won 3-2.

M.H.C. v. King's Coll., London, lost, 0-5.

The match against King Edwards was not a very serious affair as it was their first of the season and they used it as a practice match, bringing along reserves at half time. In the first half College had most of the play, but could not score and at half time both sides were even. After half time College opened the scoring but King Edwards' soon retaliated and ten minutes from the end of the game the score was 4-3 in King Edwards' favour, and though attacking strongly, College had not time to even up the score.

The return match against Fort Brockhurst was a sterner affair than the first match. College attacked most of the time but could not shoot. In the second half Fort Brockhurst attacked more but College with the slope in their favour were able to ward off their attacks and keep the lead.

At home to King's College, London, on Saturday, College had a hard game with the champions of London University. College played up the slope in the first half and play was very even. However some determined attacks by King's resulted in the score being 1-0 for them at half time. In the second half with the slope in their favour, College hoped to equalise, but alas, our attack could not score and when two shots at goal had failed it seemed that College's bolt was shot, for King's soon put on two more goals. In a last do or die effort College attacked strongly but King's broke away to pile on two further goals. The game was, however, more even than the score suggests and College were unlucky not to have scored.

CROSS COUNTRY CLUB.

Bristol 36; U.C.S. 88; Reading 88; Exeter 89.

The quadrangular at Reading on Saturday resulted in a decisive victory for Bristol. The 7½-mile course was in very good condition for a cross-country run. A slight misunderstanding near the start put everyone except the home team to a disadvantage, but the series of fences in the first mile spread the field out. A gruelling feature of the course was the inclusion of a 2 mile circuit which had to be traversed twice—a very disturbing factor during a race. The Bristol team packed particularly well, having four men in the first six positions. Pirrie, first in the U.C.S. team, was 5th, with Hodgkinson 8th.

FENCING CLUB.

Foil: U.C.S. 2. R.A.O.C. Hilslea 7.

Epee: U.C.S. 4. R.A.O.C. Hilslea 5.

Sabre: U.C.S. 2. R.A.O.C. Hilslea 7.

This was in many ways a more enjoyable match than that at Hilslea last term. Though we were forced to fight a substitute man as third foil and third sabre, the match was not such an overwhelming defeat as results would indicate, many bouts being lost by the odd point in five. Individual faults such as refusal to attack, imperfection of movement or failure to parry properly before riposting must be remedied, and great advantage can be derived from concentration on developing speed, especially in foil and sabre.

A.U. COMMITTEE MEETING.

1. It was resolved to ask College for £150 for the purchase of a new mower for the ground.

2. The following Clubs authorised to present colours this term: Soccer, Rugger, Men's and Women's Hockey, Netball and Fencing.

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social order. Its members considered that the choice lay between chaos and capitalism, this meant that we had to defend ourselves against two dangers in foreign affairs, firstly the triumph of the Left (e.g. by a defeat of a Fascist Power) and secondly the loss of vital interests which means interests vital to our great financial and economic powers. This is why since 1931 we have been in retreat as the Fascist powers advanced, first in China, then Abyssinia and now over Spain.

He concluded by saying that just as at home we demand a minimum standard of life, so in foreign affairs we must demand a minimum standard of death. We must have a government which will defend the people's vital interests otherwise we should refuse to allow conscription except under direct foreign attack.

Drama

Readers are reminded that on February 17th, three One Act Plays are being put on, in aid of the Spanish Relief Fund for Spain Appeal, by members of the Staff, the Old Hartleians and the Stage Society. The College play will be "In a Dentist's Chair" by Anthony Armstrong.

We have great pleasure in announcing that the first instalment of a stupendous novel will appear in our next issue under the title *The Mysterious Musician*.

The Editor regrets that owing to very heavy pressure on space, some articles had to be shortened and others omitted. Reports should be concise and to the point and written on one side of the paper only. Legible script will be appreciated also.

GENTLEMEN!

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Highfield Informal

Not for a long time have we enjoyed such a delightfully casual and carefree entertainment as Highfield gave us last Saturday. From 7.30, when enough guests had arrived to confirm the rumour that there really would be an entertainment, until 11.30 when some of the late-comers put in an appearance, the proceedings went forward with an abandon and disregard for programme that put everyone at their ease. For those gregarious couples who liked company, the band played with its usual vivace, while those of a nomadic temperament found the side-shows a great attraction. Historians and economists must have been (or would have been) had they had the time to spare. I very interested in the overwhelming victory which individual enterprise claimed over the collectivist system. (Please note Stoneham and Connaught!) Congratulations Highfield.

Resolution

That this conference of University magazines and news-sheet editors views with alarm the evidences of increasing attempts at censorship exercised in certain universities by authorities and S.C.'s, and considers that the British Universities should maintain their traditions of freedom of expression. It further considers that censorship should not be exercised except upon libellous or pornographic material, and that editors should only be disciplined for a breach of their terms of reference, use being made of their electors democratic right of censure.

Carried unanimously.

As this resolution is to be sent to all Union Presidents and University authorities, it would be impolitic to comment at the moment.

(N.B.—A full account of the Editors' Conference will appear in *West Saxon*.)

The BUNGALOW CAFE

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Printed by Wm. Honns & Son, Southampton, and published by the Students' Council, University College, Southampton.

Is Anything Worrying You?

I am sorry that space does not permit me to reply to all the interesting letters heaped upon my desk. Your confidence in me is very encouraging and I am sure that my advice will prove invaluable in overcoming your peculiar difficulties.

"Troubled Tommy."

You appear to have undertaken exhaustive research into the food question. The facts and figures in your letter show me that there is only one way in which you can find relief and that is to take an emetic after each course until your arms ache. You say your arms don't ache. You seriously about this food problem—are you sure that they are not hiding a feeling of utter disgust. Why don't you consult your doctor?

"Olive Oyl."

I'm glad you are enjoying yourself at School. No, teasing without bitterness means usually that people like you. To show annoyance under such circumstances only encourages such treatment. Many a true word is spoken in jest, but there are jests and jests and there is no accounting for some people's humour.

"Cheery Chas."

I certainly seem to be a "half-fellows-well-met" type, and your willingness to lend a hand must gain you many friends. There is a danger, however, in that many people resent undue familiarity and too much self assertion, so watch for this.

"Jezebel."

Well, I did not realise that such men as you describe existed to-day. Your letter took me back half a century. Do they really pay you such compliments seriously? Yes, your hair styles and mannerisms are admirably suited to such company. I should be inclined to find out if these men are not really having fun at your expense. Even if this is not so, why not be natural?

"Brother Bertie."

No, I do not think your feelings can be entirely brotherly and as you have a sister you should know the answer to this problem. Why not come into the open—after all, I expect she is quite content with her real brother. She certainly seems to need looking after, but brothers are notoriously indifferent as a rule.

"Silfia Brewery."

Then why do you smoke?

"Lifeless Leslie."

I'm glad you were able to overcome your difficulty and thank you for the jokes—or weren't they? Should like to hear from you again soon.

If you are crippled with worry why not . . .

LENA POMMEY ?

Invasion of Highfield

January 27th was a memorable date in the annals of Highfield. Punctually at 7 p.m. "The Navy" appeared on the threshold, faces beaming and buttons shining. They were ushered into the common-room by a welcoming beauty, and were somewhat overcome by the galaxy of "stars" that awaited them there. While the spectators huddled timidly together in one corner, the players obviously found it difficult to keep their eyes on the ball (small wonder!). Joyce led off well for Highfield by a convincing victory over Hearnshaw, and Dot, keeping up the tradition, won three of her games. Maggie succumbed to Eatin, but regained her usual form against Eckford. At this point, it became obvious that the cadets were recovering from their first bewitchment; the super, kindly provided by the Warden, further increased their assistance-power. Joyce and Amy both managed to wrest one game each from their opponents, and Kay and Jane put up good fights, yet the final score of 28 games to 8, proved that the Navy was still invincible. The voices of men (sic) were heard in the common-room until the unprecedented hour of 11.30 p.m. and even then Eakin was reluctant to go. Now, Stoneham and Connaught, come up and play us sometime!

PING AND PONG.

Monte Entertainment

The miracle of transforming the Assembly Hall into an enchanted castle was performed again by the maidens of Monte last week. Feminine touches were everywhere, although "Kenneth," nestling among the charming mural drawings caused some wrong comments on Monte's audacity. Late arrivals after an excellent supper made dancing ideal, and right royally were entertained. The atmosphere brimmed over with a gaiety and jollity fostered by the ingenious dances arranged. Eliminations tested ingenuity, endurance and ability, causing much amusement. Miss Oggle and Mr. Tedd won the prize for displaying the most feeling, with an ease which must have come only from long practice. Staff and students alike applauded the playlets. The P.T. class, performing back to the audience, with face masks on the backs of their heads, were a revelation of what can be done with the human anatomy. This was great fun. Miss Rose's flower dance was delightful, while Papa's attempts to enlighten "his" son on 'the facts of life' almost succeeded in making the audience uncomfortable, too.

Thank you, Monte, for a really enjoyable evening. We appreciate the work you did to make your Entertainment a success. But where was the Chairman of Connaught when he should have thanked our hosts?

Correspondence

The Editor of "Wessex News." Dear Sir,

Casting aside the dignified silence demanded by good breeding, we have determined to state, in no uncertain terms, our disgust at the lack of courtesy shown to Monte by the members of other halls on the occasion of our Entertainment. We are aware that apathy, in an advanced form, is at present ravaging College; it has also come to our ears that Finals are occurring, as usual, in the Summer; but we do not accept either as excuse for the discourtesy offered us. On Saturday, at the one Formal Entertainment of the term, only about half the number expected were present for supper, and although more did come later, it was difficult for us to provide for those guests who arrived on time, that warmth of atmosphere and genial party spirit at which we always aim. Is it too much to ask that people give their names to the Hall secretaries in time for us to be told definite numbers? Or that, once having signed up, they do not lightly withdraw? We are loathe to believe that the remark "oh, yes, I've signed for Monte, but if there's a decent flick on, of course, I shall go to that," really was spoken in Highfield, as alleged, but we wonder. The undoubted success of the latter part of the evening, and the appreciative comments of the many people who have since congratulated us, prove that "Monte," small though it is, and naturally hampered by sex in these matters, can organise a dance second to none. Our entertainment, we venture to assert, was approached for variety, audibility, efficiency and laughs-per-minute only by Stoneham. Are we two halls the last strongholds of the corporate spirit, or was it merely coincidence that Stoneham alone could have sent us more than the number we invited? We call on Connaught, Highfield and Russell (although the last-named have our understanding sympathy) to explain or justify their behaviour.

These may be strong words, sir, but we know that to be "lady-like" in this instance would be unacceptable to go considered. We intend to publish a more detailed manifesto in the *West Saxon*, to which we direct the attention of anyone who may still be unconvinced.

We are, Sir, Yours unanimously, MONTFORTH HALL, J.C.R. COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNION.

Nominations for the President of the Union for Session 1939-1940 must be received not later than Saturday, February 11th. They must be signed by nominee, proposer, seconder, and five supporters.

Calendar.

Saturday, February 11th.
Science Dance in the Assembly Hall.
Friday, February 17th.
Geographical Society, 5.15 p.m.
Saturday, February 18th.
Connaught Hall Informal.
Socialist Society, Edgell Rickwood on "Culture and the Social Crisis." 11.30 a.m.
COMING SHORTLY.
February 25th.
Stoneham Informal Entertainment.
March 4th.
Socialist Society. Mr. Hirstfield on "The Problem of Race in Modern Politics."
March 16th. UNION BALL.

Chess Club

Three players have been nominated to join the British Universities Chess Team, which is to play Dutch Universities in Holland this Easter. We await the decision of the selection committee.

On January 25th the 'A' beat Taunton's School by 4-2 in the Southampton League and 3-2 in the Hants League. The match started well, with quick wins on top and bottom boards but with a King and Queen fork one game went against us and the tide turned, College having to fight hard to win as stated.

At the same time the "B" succumbed 4 to 2 to the Rooks. One game was won—with the Max Large.

Last Wednesday the "A" lost by a narrow margin to the Old Tauntonians in the semi-final of the Robertson Cup. The top boards held their own against county players. Number one's defence was pierced by a French spear-head of centre pawns. Games two and three were lively, the second savouring of Common Room Chess, the College player being three pieces up at one stage! Board three, with many anxious moments, missed a Queen for a Bishop, beat off a formidable attack and won. The 4th opening with the Queen's Orthodox, never got going and ended in a draw. Bottom board with a positional advantage lost a bishop, so finish. So once more College has failed to win this trophy. K. N. R.

SPORTS GEAR

for
all purposes
at

TOOMER'S
SPORTS DEPOT

at
LONDON RD